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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

JUAN CARLOS SERRANO, MACEDONIO FELIX, and PRIMITIVO FELIX, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

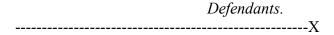
-against-

COLLECTIVE ACTION UNDER 29 U.S.C. § 216(b)

COMPLAINT

ONE MORE THAI CORP. (D/B/A ONE MORE THAI), KASIYA DJOKIC, and SIRIWADEE JAREEPRASIT,

ECF Case



Plaintiffs Juan Carlos Serrano, Macedonio Felix, and Primitivo Felix, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated (collectively, "Plaintiffs"), by and through their attorneys, Michael Faillace & Associates, P.C., upon their knowledge and belief, and as against One More Thai Corp. (d/b/a One More Thai), ("Defendant Corporation"), Kasiya Djokic, and Siriwadee Jareeprasit ("Individual Defendants"), (collectively, "Defendants"), allege as follows:

NATURE OF ACTION

- 1. Plaintiffs are former employees of Defendants One More Thai Corp. (d/b/a One More Thai), Kasiya Djokic, and Siriwadee Jareeprasit.
- 2. Defendants own, operate, or control a Thai restaurant, located at 6 Clinton Street, New York, New York 10002 under the name "One More Thai".

- 3. Upon information and belief, individual Defendants Kasiya Djokic, and Siriwadee Jareeprasit, serve or served as owners, managers, principals, or agents of Defendant Corporation and, through this corporate entity, operate or operated the restaurant as a joint or unified enterprise.
- 4. Plaintiffs were employed as a sauce preparer and cooks at the restaurant located at 6 Clinton Street, New York, New York 10002.
- 5. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Plaintiffs worked for Defendants in excess of 40 hours per week, without appropriate minimum wage, overtime, and spread of hours compensation for the hours that they worked.
- 6. Rather, Defendants failed to maintain accurate recordkeeping of the hours worked and failed to pay Plaintiffs appropriately for any hours worked, either at the straight rate of pay or for any additional overtime premium.
- 7. Further, Defendants failed to pay Plaintiffs the required "spread of hours" pay for any day in which they had to work over 10 hours a day.
 - 8. Furthermore, Defendants repeatedly failed to pay Plaintiffs wages on a timely basis.
- 9. Defendants' conduct extended beyond Plaintiffs to all other similarly situated employees.
- 10. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Defendants maintained a policy and practice of requiring Plaintiffs and other employees to work in excess of forty (40) hours per week without providing the minimum wage and overtime compensation required by federal and state law and regulations.
- 11. Plaintiffs now bring this action on behalf of themselves, and other similarly situated individuals, for unpaid minimum and overtime wages pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.* ("FLSA"), and for violations of the N.Y. Labor Law §§ 190 *et seq.*

and 650 et seq. (the "NYLL"), and the "spread of hours" and overtime wage orders of the New York Commissioner of Labor codified at N.Y. COMP. CODES R. & REGS. tit. 12, § 146-1.6 (herein the "Spread of Hours Wage Order"), including applicable liquidated damages, interest, attorneys' fees and costs.

12. Plaintiffs seek certification of this action as a collective action on behalf of themselves, individually, and all other similarly situated employees and former employees of Defendants pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 13. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question) and the FLSA, and supplemental jurisdiction over Plaintiffs' state law claims under 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).
- 14. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and (c) because all, or a substantial portion of, the events or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in this district, Defendants maintain their corporate headquarters and offices within this district, and Defendants operate a Thai restaurant located in this district. Further, Plaintiffs were employed by Defendants in this district.

PARTIES

Plaintiffs

- 15. Plaintiff Juan Carlos Serrano ("Plaintiff Serrano" or "Mr. Serrano") is an adult individual residing in Kings County, New York.
- 16. Plaintiff Serrano was employed by Defendants at One More Thai from approximately March 2020 until on or about April 11, 2021.

- 17. Plaintiff Macedonio Felix ("Plaintiff Macedonio" or "Mr. Macedonio") is an adult individual residing in New York County, New York.
- 18. Plaintiff Macedonio was employed by Defendants at One More Thai from approximately March 29, 2020 until on or about April 11, 2021.
- 19. Plaintiff Primitivo Felix ("Plaintiff Primitivo" or "Mr. Primitivo") is an adult individual residing in New York County, New York.
- 20. Plaintiff Primitivo was employed by Defendants at One More Thai from approximately March 29, 2020 until on or about April 11, 2021.

Defendants

- 21. At all relevant times, Defendants owned, operated, or controlled a Thai restaurant, located at 6 Clinton Street, New York, New York 10002 under the name "One More Thai".
- 22. Upon information and belief, One More Thai Corp. (d/b/a One More Thai) is a domestic corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York. Upon information and belief, it maintains its principal place of business at 6 Clinton Street, New York, New York 10002.
- 23. Defendant Kasiya Djokic is an individual engaging (or who was engaged) in business in this judicial district during the relevant time period. Defendant Kasiya Djokic is sued individually in his capacity as owner, officer and/or agent of Defendant Corporation. Defendant Kasiya Djokic possesses operational control over Defendant Corporation, an ownership interest in Defendant Corporation, and controls significant functions of Defendant Corporation. He determines the wages and compensation of the employees of Defendants, including Plaintiffs, establishes the schedules of the employees, maintains employee records, and has the authority to hire and fire employees.

24. Defendant Siriwadee Jareeprasit is an individual engaging (or who was engaged) in business in this judicial district during the relevant time period. Defendant Siriwadee Jareeprasit is sued individually in her capacity as owner, officer and/or agent of Defendant Corporation. Defendant Siriwadee Jareeprasit possesses operational control over Defendant Corporation, an ownership interest in Defendant Corporation, and controls significant functions of Defendant Corporation. She determines the wages and compensation of the employees of Defendants, including Plaintiffs, establishes the schedules of the employees, maintains employee records, and has the authority to hire and fire employees.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

Defendants Constitute Joint Employers

- 25. Defendants operate a Thai restaurant located in the Lower East Side in Manhattan.
- 26. Individual Defendants, Kasiya Djokic, and Siriwadee Jareeprasit, possess operational control over Defendant Corporation, possess ownership interests in Defendant Corporation, and control significant functions of Defendant Corporation.
- 27. Defendants are associated and joint employers, act in the interest of each other with respect to employees, pay employees by the same method, and share control over the employees.
- 28. Each Defendant possessed substantial control over Plaintiffs' (and other similarly situated employees') working conditions, and over the policies and practices with respect to the employment and compensation of Plaintiffs, and all similarly situated individuals, referred to herein.
- 29. Defendants jointly employed Plaintiffs (and all similarly situated employees) and are Plaintiffs' (and all similarly situated employees') employers within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. 201 *et seq.* and the NYLL.

- 30. In the alternative, Defendants constitute a single employer of Plaintiffs and/or similarly situated individuals.
- 31. Upon information and belief, Individual Defendants Kasiya Djokic, and Siriwadee Jareeprasit operate Defendant Corporation as either an alter ego of themselves and/or fail to operate Defendant Corporation as an entity legally separate and apart from themselves, by among other things:
 - a) failing to adhere to the corporate formalities necessary to operate Defendant Corporation as a Corporation,
 - b) defectively forming or maintaining the corporate entity of Defendant Corporation,
 by, amongst other things, failing to hold annual meetings or maintaining
 appropriate corporate records,
 - c) transferring assets and debts freely as between all Defendants,
 - d) operating Defendant Corporation for their own benefit as the sole or majority shareholders,
 - e) operating Defendant Corporation for their own benefit and maintaining control over this corporation as a closed Corporation,
 - f) intermingling assets and debts of their own with Defendant Corporation,
 - g) diminishing and/or transferring assets of Defendant Corporation to avoid full liability as necessary to protect their own interests, and
 - h) Other actions evincing a failure to adhere to the corporate form.
- 32. At all relevant times, Defendants were Plaintiffs' employers within the meaning of the FLSA and New York Labor Law. Defendants had the power to hire and fire Plaintiffs, controlled

the terms and conditions of employment, and determined the rate and method of any compensation in exchange for Plaintiffs' services.

- 33. In each year from 2020 to 2021, Defendants, both separately and jointly, had a gross annual volume of sales of not less than \$500,000 (exclusive of excise taxes at the retail level that are separately stated).
- 34. In addition, upon information and belief, Defendants and/or their enterprise were directly engaged in interstate commerce. As an example, numerous items that were used in the restaurant on a daily basis are goods produced outside of the State of New York.

Individual Plaintiffs

- 35. Plaintiffs are former employees of Defendants who were employed as a sauce preparer and cooks.
- 36. Plaintiffs seek to represent a class of similarly situated individuals under 29 U.S.C. 216(b).

Plaintiff Juan Carlos Serrano

- 37. Plaintiff Serrano was employed by Defendants from approximately March 2020 until on or about April 11, 2021.
 - 38. Defendants employed Plaintiff Serrano as a cook.
- 39. Plaintiff Serrano regularly handled goods in interstate commerce, such as food and other supplies produced outside the State of New York.
 - 40. Plaintiff Serrano's work duties required neither discretion nor independent judgment.
- 41. Throughout his employment with Defendants, Plaintiff Serrano regularly worked in excess of 40 hours per week.

- 42. From approximately March 2020 until on or about April 11, 2021, Plaintiff Serrano worked from approximately 11:30 a.m. until on or about 10:30 p.m. to 10:45 p.m., 6 days a week (typically 66 to 67.5 hours per week).
 - 43. Throughout his employment, Defendants paid Plaintiff Serrano his wages in cash.
- 44. From approximately March 2020 until on or about April 11, 2021, Defendants paid Plaintiff Serrano a fixed salary of \$150 per day.
- 45. Plaintiff Serrano's pay did not vary even when he was required to stay later or work a longer day than his usual schedule.
- 46. For example, Defendants required Plaintiff Serrano to work an additional 15 minutes past his scheduled departure time every Friday and Sunday, and did not pay him for the additional time he worked.

Although Defendants granted Plaintiff Serrano one hour for meal breaks, they always interrupted these breaks by requiring Plaintiff Serrano to go back to work after only a short break.

- 47. Plaintiff Serrano was not required to keep track of his time, nor to his knowledge, did the Defendants utilize any time tracking device such as punch cards, that accurately reflected his actual hours worked.
- 48. No notification, either in the form of posted notices or other means, was ever given to Plaintiff Serrano regarding overtime and wages under the FLSA and NYLL.
- 49. Defendants did not provide Plaintiff Serrano an accurate statement of wages, as required by NYLL 195(3).

- 50. Defendants did not give any notice to Plaintiff Serrano, in English and in Spanish (Plaintiff Serrano's primary language), of his rate of pay, employer's regular pay day, and such other information as required by NYLL §195(1).
- 51. Defendants required Plaintiff Serrano to purchase "tools of the trade" with his own funds—including soap and masks.

Plaintiff Macedonio Felix

- 52. Plaintiff Macedonio was employed by Defendants from approximately March 29, 2020 until on or about April 11, 2021.
 - 53. Defendants employed Plaintiff Macedonio as a cook and a sauce preparer.
- 54. Plaintiff Macedonio regularly handled goods in interstate commerce, such as food and other supplies produced outside the State of New York.
- 55. Plaintiff Macedonio's work duties required neither discretion nor independent judgment.
- 56. From approximately March 29, 2020 until on or about February 2021, Plaintiff Macedonio worked from approximately 11:30 a.m. until on or about 10:30 p.m., 6 days a week (typically 66 hours per week).
- 57. From approximately February 2021 until on or about April 11, 2021, Plaintiff Macedonio worked from approximately 11:30 a.m. until on or about 10:30 p.m., 5 days a week (typically 55 hours per week).
 - 58. Throughout his employment, Defendants paid Plaintiff Macedonio his wages in cash.
- 59. From approximately March 29, 2020 until on or about February 2021, Defendants paid Plaintiff Macedonio a fixed salary of \$1,020 per week.

- 60. From approximately February 2021 until on or about April 11, 2021, Defendants paid Plaintiff Macedonio a fixed salary of \$850 per week.
- 61. Plaintiff Macedonio's pay did not vary even when he was required to stay later or work a longer day than his usual schedule.
- 62. For example, Defendants required Plaintiff Macedonio to work an hour to an hour and a half past his scheduled departure time once every two months, and did not pay him for the additional time he worked.
- 63. Although Defendants granted Plaintiff Macedonio one hour for meal breaks, they always interrupted these breaks by requiring Plaintiff Macedonio to go back to work after only a short break.
- 64. Plaintiff Macedonio was not required to keep track of his time, nor to his knowledge, did the Defendants utilize any time tracking device such as punch cards, that accurately reflected his actual hours worked.
- 65. Defendants required Plaintiff Macedonio to sign a document, the contents of which he was not allowed to review in detail, in order to release his weekly pay.
- 66. Defendants took improper and illegal deductions from Plaintiff Macedonio's wages; specifically, Defendants deducted \$15 to \$20 from Plaintiff Macedonio's wages for arriving late two or three times a month.
- 67. No notification, either in the form of posted notices or other means, was ever given to Plaintiff Macedonio regarding overtime and wages under the FLSA and NYLL.
- 68. Defendants did not provide Plaintiff Macedonio an accurate statement of wages, as required by NYLL 195(3).

- 69. Defendants did not give any notice to Plaintiff Macedonio, in English and in Spanish (Plaintiff Macedonio's primary language), of his rate of pay, employer's regular pay day, and such other information as required by NYLL §195(1).
- 70. Defendants required Plaintiff Macedonio to purchase "tools of the trade" with his own funds—including gloves.

Plaintiff Primitivo Felix

- 71. Plaintiff Primitivo was employed by Defendants from approximately March 29, 2020 until on or about April 11, 2021.
 - 72. Defendants employed Plaintiff Primitivo as a cook.
- 73. Plaintiff Primitivo regularly handled goods in interstate commerce, such as food and other supplies produced outside the State of New York.
- 74. Plaintiff Primitivo's work duties required neither discretion nor independent judgment.
- 75. Throughout his employment with Defendants, Plaintiff Primitivo regularly worked in excess of 40 hours per week.
- 76. From approximately March 2020 until on or about December 2020, Plaintiff Primitivo worked from approximately 11:30 a.m. until on or about 10:30 p.m. to 10:45 p.m., 6 days a week (typically 66 to 67.5 hours per week).
- 77. From approximately January 2021 until on or about March 2021, Plaintiff Primitivo worked from approximately 11:30 a.m. until on or about 10:30 p.m. to 10:45 p.m., 5 days a week (typically 55 to 56.25 hours per week).
 - 78. Throughout his employment, Defendants paid Plaintiff Primitivo his wages in cash.

- 79. From approximately March 2020 until on or about April 11, 2021, Defendants paid Plaintiff Primitivo a fixed salary of \$150 per day.
- 80. For approximately his last week of work, Defendants did not pay Plaintiff Primitivo any wages for his work.
- 81. Plaintiff Primitivo's pay did not vary even when he was required to stay later or work a longer day than his usual schedule.
- 82. For example, Defendants required Plaintiff Primitivo to work an additional 15 minutes past his scheduled departure time every weekend, and did not pay him for the additional time he worked.
- 83. Although Defendants granted Plaintiff Primitivo one hour for meal breaks, they always interrupted these breaks by requiring Plaintiff Primitivo to go back to work after only a short break.
- 84. Plaintiff Primitivo was not required to keep track of his time, nor to his knowledge, did the Defendants utilize any time tracking device such as punch cards, that accurately reflected his actual hours worked.
- 85. Defendants required Plaintiff Primitivo to sign a document, the contents of which he was not allowed to review in detail, in order to release his weekly pay.
- 86. Defendants took improper and illegal deductions from Plaintiff Primitivo's wages; specifically, Defendants deducted \$15 to \$20 from Plaintiff Primitivo's wages for arriving late two or three times a month.
- 87. No notification, either in the form of posted notices or other means, was ever given to Plaintiff Primitivo regarding overtime and wages under the FLSA and NYLL.

- 88. Defendants did not provide Plaintiff Primitivo an accurate statement of wages, as required by NYLL 195(3).
- 89. Defendants did not give any notice to Plaintiff Primitivo, in English and in Spanish (Plaintiff Primitivo's primary language), of his rate of pay, employer's regular pay day, and such other information as required by NYLL §195(1).
- 90. Defendants required Plaintiff Primitivo to purchase "tools of the trade" with his own funds—including shoes, gloves, face coverings, and hand sanitizer.

Defendants' General Employment Practices

- 91. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Defendants maintained a policy and practice of requiring Plaintiffs (and all similarly situated employees) to work in excess of 40 hours a week without paying them appropriate minimum wage, spread of hours pay, and overtime compensation as required by federal and state laws.
- 92. Plaintiffs were victims of Defendants' common policy and practices which violate their rights under the FLSA and New York Labor Law by, *inter alia*, not paying them the wages they were owed for the hours they worked.
- 93. Defendants' pay practices resulted in Plaintiffs not receiving payment for all their hours worked, and resulted in Plaintiffs' effective rate of pay falling below the required minimum wage rate.
- 94. Defendants habitually required Plaintiffs to work additional hours beyond their regular shifts but did not provide them with any additional compensation.
- 95. Defendants willfully disregarded and purposefully evaded recordkeeping requirements of the FLSA and NYLL by failing to maintain accurate and complete timesheets and payroll records.

- 96. On a number of occasions, Defendants required Plaintiffs to sign a document the contents of which they were not allowed to review in detail.
 - 97. Defendants paid Plaintiffs their wages in cash.
- 98. Defendants failed to post at the workplace, or otherwise provide to employees, the required postings or notices to employees regarding the applicable wage and hour requirements of the FLSA and NYLL.
- 99. Upon information and belief, these practices by Defendants were done willfully to disguise the actual number of hours Plaintiffs (and similarly situated individuals) worked, and to avoid paying Plaintiffs properly for their full hours worked.
- 100. Defendants engaged in their unlawful conduct pursuant to a corporate policy of minimizing labor costs and denying employees compensation by knowingly violating the FLSA and NYLL.
- 101. Defendants' unlawful conduct was intentional, willful, in bad faith, and caused significant damages to Plaintiffs and other similarly situated former workers.
- statements at the time of their payment of wages, containing: the dates of work covered by that payment of wages; name of employee; name of employer; address and phone number of employer; rate or rates of pay and basis thereof, whether paid by the hour, shift, day, week, salary, piece, commission, or other; gross wages; deductions; allowances, if any, claimed as part of the minimum wage; net wages; the regular hourly rate or rates of pay; the overtime rate or rates of pay; the number of regular hours worked; and the number of overtime hours worked, as required by NYLL §195(3).
- 103. Defendants failed to provide Plaintiffs and other employees, at the time of hiring and on or before February 1 of each subsequent year, a statement in English and the employees' primary

language, containing: the rate or rates of pay and basis thereof, whether paid by the hour, shift, day, week, salary, piece, commission, or other; allowances, if any, claimed as part of the minimum wage, including tip, meal, or lodging allowances; the regular pay day designated by the employer; the name of the employer; any "doing business as" names used by the employer; the physical address of the employer's main office or principal place of business, and a mailing address if different; and the telephone number of the employer, as required by New York Labor Law §195(1).

FLSA COLLECTIVE ACTION CLAIMS

- 104. Plaintiffs bring their FLSA minimum wage, overtime compensation, and liquidated damages claims as a collective action pursuant to FLSA Section 16(b), 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), on behalf of all similarly situated persons (the "FLSA Class members"), i.e., persons who are or were employed by Defendants or any of them, on or after the date that is three years before the filing of the complaint in this case (the "FLSA Class Period").
- 105. At all relevant times, Plaintiffs and other members of the FLSA Class were similarly situated in that they had substantially similar job requirements and pay provisions, and have been subject to Defendants' common practices, policies, programs, procedures, protocols and plans including willfully failing and refusing to pay them the required minimum wage, overtime pay at a one and one-half their regular rates for work in excess of forty (40) hours per workweek under the FLSA, and willfully failing to keep records under the FLSA.
 - 106. The claims of Plaintiffs stated herein are similar to those of the other employees.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF THE MINIMUM WAGE PROVISIONS OF THE FLSA

107. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.

- 108. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants were Plaintiffs' employers within the meaning of the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 203(d). Defendants had the power to hire and fire Plaintiffs (and the FLSA Class Members), controlled the terms and conditions of their employment, and determined the rate and method of any compensation in exchange for their employment.
- 109. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants were engaged in commerce or in an industry or activity affecting commerce.
- 110. Defendants constitute an enterprise within the meaning of the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 203 (r-s).
- 111. Defendants failed to pay Plaintiffs (and the FLSA Class members) at the applicable minimum hourly rate, in violation of 29 U.S.C. § 206(a).
- 112. Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiffs (and the FLSA Class members) at the applicable minimum hourly rate was willful within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 255(a).
- 113. Plaintiffs (and the FLSA Class members) were damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF THE OVERTIME PROVISIONS OF THE FLSA

- 114. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.
- 115. Defendants, in violation of 29 U.S.C. § 207(a)(1), failed to pay Plaintiffs (and the FLSA Class members) overtime compensation at a rate of one and one-half times the regular rate of pay for each hour worked in excess of forty hours in a work week.
- 116. Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiffs (and the FLSA Class members), overtime compensation was willful within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 255(a).

117. Plaintiffs (and the FLSA Class members) were damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF THE NEW YORK MINIMUM WAGE ACT

- 118. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.
- 119. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants were Plaintiffs' employers within the meaning of the N.Y. Lab. Law §§ 2 and 651. Defendants had the power to hire and fire Plaintiffs, controlled the terms and conditions of their employment, and determined the rates and methods of any compensation in exchange for their employment.
- 120. Defendants, in violation of NYLL § 652(1) and the supporting regulations of the New York State Department of Labor, paid Plaintiffs less than the minimum wage.
- 121. Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiffs the minimum wage was willful within the meaning of N.Y. Lab. Law § 663.
 - 122. Plaintiffs were damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF THE OVERTIME PROVISIONS

OF THE NEW YORK STATE LABOR LAW

- 123. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.
- 124. Defendants, in violation of N.Y. Lab. Law § 190 et seq., and supporting regulations of the New York State Department of Labor, failed to pay Plaintiffs' overtime compensation at rates of one and one-half times the regular rate of pay for each hour worked in excess of forty hours in a work week.

- 125. Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiffs' overtime compensation was willful within the meaning of N.Y. Lab. Law § 663.
 - 126. Plaintiffs were damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF THE SPREAD OF HOURS WAGE ORDER

OF THE NEW YORK COMMISSIONER OF LABOR

- 127. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.
- 128. Defendants failed to pay Plaintiffs one additional hour's pay at the basic minimum wage rate before allowances for each day Plaintiffs' spread of hours exceeded ten hours in violation of NYLL §§ 650 *et seq.* and 12 N.Y.C.R.R. §§ 146-1.6.
- 129. Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiffs an additional hour's pay for each day Plaintiffs' spread of hours exceeded ten hours was willful within the meaning of NYLL § 663.
 - 130. Plaintiffs were damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF THE NOTICE AND RECORDKEEPING

REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW YORK LABOR LAW

- 131. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.
- 132. Defendants failed to provide Plaintiffs with a written notice, in English and in Spanish (Plaintiffs' primary language), containing: the rate or rates of pay and basis thereof, whether paid by the hour, shift, day, week, salary, piece, commission, or other; allowances, if any, claimed as part of the minimum wage, including tip, meal, or lodging allowances; the regular pay day designated by the employer; the name of the employer; any "doing business as" names used by the employer; the

physical address of the employer's main office or principal place of business, and a mailing address if different; and the telephone number of the employer, as required by NYLL §195(1).

133. Defendants are liable to each Plaintiff in the amount of \$5,000, together with costs and attorneys' fees.

SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF THE WAGE STATEMENT PROVISIONS

OF THE NEW YORK LABOR LAW

- 134. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.
- 135. With each payment of wages, Defendants failed to provide Plaintiffs with an accurate statement listing each of the following: the dates of work covered by that payment of wages; name of employee; name of employer; address and phone number of employer; rate or rates of pay and basis thereof, whether paid by the hour, shift, day, week, salary, piece, commission, or other; gross wages; deductions; allowances, if any, claimed as part of the minimum wage; net wages; the regular hourly rate or rates of pay; the overtime rate or rates of pay; the number of regular hours worked; and the number of overtime hours worked, as required by NYLL 195(3).
- 136. Defendants are liable to each Plaintiff in the amount of \$5,000, together with costs and attorneys' fees.

EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION

RECOVERY OF EQUIPMENT COSTS

- 137. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.
- 138. Defendants required Plaintiffs to pay, without reimbursement, the costs and expenses for purchasing and maintaining equipment and "tools of the trade" required to perform their jobs,

further reducing their wages in violation of the FLSA and NYLL. 29 U.S.C. § 206(a); 29 C.F.R. § 531.35; N.Y. Lab. Law §§ 193 and 198-b.

139. Plaintiffs were damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION

UNLAWFUL DEDUCTIONS FROM WAGES IN VIOLATION

OF THE NEW YORK LABOR LAW

- 140. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though set forth fully herein.
- 141. At all relevant times, Defendants were Plaintiffs' employers within the meaning of the N.Y. Lab. Law §§ 2 and 651.
- 142. Defendants made unlawful deductions from Plaintiffs' wages; specifically, Defendants deducted \$15 to \$20 from Plaintiff Primitivo for arriving late.
 - 143. The deductions made from Plaintiffs' wages were not authorized or required by law.
- 144. Through their knowing and intentional efforts to take unauthorized deductions from Plaintiffs' wages, Defendants willfully violated NYLL, Article 6, §§ 190 et seq., and supporting New York State regulations.

Plaintiffs were damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

TENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF THE TIMELY PAYMENT PROVISIONS

OF THE NEW YORK LABOR LAW

- 145. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though set forth fully herein.
- 146. Defendants did not pay Plaintiffs on a regular weekly basis, in violation of NYLL §191.
 - 147. Defendants are liable to each Plaintiff in an amount to be determined at trial.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court enter judgment against Defendants by:

- (a) Designating this action as a collective action and authorizing prompt issuance of notice pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) to all putative class members apprising them of the pendency of this action, and permitting them to promptly file consents to be Plaintiffs in the FLSA claims in this action;
- (b) Declaring that Defendants violated the minimum wage provisions of, and associated rules and regulations under, the FLSA as to Plaintiffs and the FLSA Class members;
- (c) Declaring that Defendants violated the overtime wage provisions of, and associated rules and regulations under, the FLSA as to Plaintiffs and the FLSA Class members;
- (d) Declaring that Defendants violated the recordkeeping requirements of, and associated rules and regulations under, the FLSA with respect to Plaintiffs' and the FLSA Class members' compensation, hours, wages, and any deductions or credits taken against wages;
- (e) Declaring that Defendants' violations of the provisions of the FLSA were willful as to Plaintiffs and the FLSA Class members;
- (f) Awarding Plaintiffs and the FLSA Class members damages for the amount of unpaid minimum wage, overtime compensation, and damages for any improper deductions or credits taken against wages under the FLSA as applicable;
- (g) Awarding Plaintiffs and the FLSA Class members liquidated damages in an amount equal to 100% of their damages for the amount of unpaid minimum wage and overtime compensation, and damages for any improper deductions or credits taken against wages under the

FLSA as applicable pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b);

- (h) Declaring that Defendants violated the minimum wage provisions of, and rules and orders promulgated under, the NYLL as to Plaintiffs;
- (i) Declaring that Defendants violated the overtime wage provisions of, and rules and orders promulgated under, the NYLL as to Plaintiffs;
- (j) Declaring that Defendants violated the spread-of-hours requirements of the NYLL and supporting regulations as to Plaintiffs;
- (k) Declaring that Defendants violated the timely payment provisions of the NYLL as to Plaintiffs;
- (l) Declaring that Defendants violated the notice and recordkeeping requirements of the NYLL with respect to Plaintiffs' compensation, hours, wages and any deductions or credits taken against wages;
- (m) Declaring that Defendants' violations of the provisions of the NYLL and spread of hours wage order were willful as to Plaintiffs;
- (n) Awarding Plaintiffs damages for the amount of unpaid minimum wage and overtime compensation, and for any improper deductions or credits taken against wages, as well as awarding spread of hours pay under the NYLL as applicable
- (o) Awarding Plaintiffs damages for Defendants' violation of the NYLL notice and recordkeeping provisions, pursuant to NYLL §§198(1-b), 198(1-d);
- (p) Awarding Plaintiffs liquidated damages in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the total amount of minimum wage, overtime compensation, and spread of hours pay shown to be owed pursuant to NYLL § 663 as applicable; and liquidated damages pursuant to NYLL § 198(3);

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(q) Awarding Plaintiffs and the FLSA Class members pre-judgment and post-judgment

interest as applicable;

(r) Awarding Plaintiffs and the FLSA Class members the expenses incurred in this

action, including costs and attorneys' fees;

(s) Providing that if any amounts remain unpaid upon the expiration of ninety days

following issuance of judgment, or ninety days after expiration of the time to appeal and no appeal

is then pending, whichever is later, the total amount of judgment shall automatically increase by

fifteen percent, as required by NYLL § 198(4); and

(t) All such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury on all issues triable by a jury.

Dated: New York, New York

May 6, 2021

MICHAEL FAILLACE & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

By: /s/ Michael Faillace

Michael Faillace [MF-8436] 60 East 42nd Street, Suite 4510 New York, New York 10165

Telephone: (212) 317-1200

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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Case 1:21-cv-04973-PGG-SN Document 1 Filed 06/04/21 Page 24 of 26 MICHAEL FAILLACE & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

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Faillace@employmentcompliance.com

April 13, 2021

Telephone: (212) 317-1200

Facsimile: (212) 317-1620

BY HAND

TO: Clerk of Court,

I hereby consent to join this lawsuit as a party plaintiff. (Yo, por medio de este documento, doy mi consentimiento para formar parte de la demanda como uno de los demandantes.)

Name / Nombre: <u>Macedonio Felix</u>

Legal Representative / Abogado: <u>Michael Faillace & Associates, P.C.</u>

Signature / Firma:

Date / Fecha: 13 de abril 2021

Michael Faillace & Associates, P.C.

Employment and Litigation Attorneys

60 E 42 nd Street, Suite 4510 New York, New York 10165	Telephone: (212) 317-1200 Facsimile: (212) 317-1620
Faillace@employmentcompliance.com	
BY HAND	May 6, 2021
TO: Clerk of Court,	
I hereby consent to join this lawsuit a (Yo, por medio de este documento, demanda como uno de los demanda	doy mi consentimiento para formar parte de la
Name / Nombre:	Juan Carlos Serrano
Legal Representative / Abogado:	Michael Paillace & Associates, P.C.
Signature / Firma:	

6 de mayo 2021

Date / Fecha:

Michael Faillace & Associates, P.C.

Employment and Litigation Attorneys

60 E 42 nd Street, Suite 4510 New York, New York 10165	Telephone: (212) 317-1200 Facsimile: (212) 317-1620
Faillace@employmentcompliance.com	
BY HAND	April 13, 2021
TO: Clerk of Court,	
I hereby consent to join this lawsui (Yo, por medio de este document demanda como uno de los deman	to, doy mi consentimiento para formar parte de la
Name / Nombre:	Primitivo Felix
Legal Representative / Abogado:	Michael Faillace & Associates, P.C.
Signature / Firma:	Sand Sand
Date / Fecha:	_13 de Abril de 2021